



AETC News Clips

Air Force Times



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University to run Keesler medical training

Associated Press

GULFPORT, Miss. — The University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson will take over the medical training program at Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., on July 1, 2007, university officials say.

Dan Jones, vice chancellor for health affairs at UMC, said Tuesday that the 100 Air Force doctors currently at Keesler will still run the program, but they will become faculty members of the medical center.

“We’ve not been able to serve this part of the state as well as what we should, and we’d like to change that,” Jones told a meeting of community leaders and elected officials.

The Base Realignment and Closure commission plan called for a “community hospital” at Keesler, which would have eliminated the training program for young doctors just out of medical school.

However, Air Force officials said after Hurricane Katrina that the base would be restored to its pre-storm condition, including the training program.

Keesler sustained about \$915 million of damage during the storm.

Air Force doctors will continue to get training at Keesler, and medical students from UMC will also do rotations at the hospital and at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Jones said.

“This provides the state an excellent opportunity to maintain medical positions in this state,” he said. “For us, this is a win-win situation.”

Information from The Biloxi (Miss.) Sun Herald



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Laughlin AFB, Texas



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Del Rio News-Herald, Friday 9 June 06, Page 2

Incident at Laughlin turned out to be a good training exercise

JENNIFER KILLIN
STAFF WRITER

During a routine training exercise on Laughlin Air Force Base Wednesday, an explosives detection dog "alerted" on a suspicious package, according to base public relations officials.

In a prepared statement sent to the *Del Rio News-Herald* this morning via email, officials stated that at approximately 11 a.m. military personnel were conducting an exercise building sweep when the canine, Brix, alerted on a package in the Communications Center, also known as Building 241.

The statement says that the exercise was called off at that time and real-world response efforts began, including immediately establishing a 500-foot safety cordon with a single entry control point around the building.

The 37th Civil Engineer Squadron's explosive ordnance disposal (EOC) team was also immediately dispatched from Lack-

land Air Force Base in San Antonio and escorted to Laughlin by the Texas Department of Public Safety.

At approximately 2:20 p.m., the explosives team was able to utilize a robot to enter the building and secure the package, which they determined to pose no threat or danger to personnel or property.

The incident did not result in Laughlin closing at any time but delays did occur due to increased exercise force protection measures, according to the release.

Once the incident was over and the threat was alleviated, Laughlin's west gate was open to relieve some on the congestion on the base.

"Overall, yesterday's events provided an excellent opportunity for us to evaluate our ability to prevent and respond to threats, whether man-made or natural, as is the intent of exercises and training," said Laughlin Public Affairs Official Capt. Ken Hall.

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